GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:122
ANSWERED ON:25.04.2016
Project Mausam
Singh Deo Shri Kalikesh Narayan

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the objectives and detailed outline of Project Mausam with its expected time of commencement and completion along with the cost of the project;

(b) whether the Government has entered into partnerships with other nations and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to expand its maritime presence?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE, CULTURE AND TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) AND MINISTER OF STATE, CIVIL AVIATION

(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

(a) Project 'Mausam' is the initiative of Ministry of Culture to be implemented by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) as the nodal agency with research support of the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA) and National Museum as associate bodies. This project aims to explore the multi-faceted Indian Ocean 'world' − collating archaeological and historical research in order to document the diversity of cultural, commercial and religious interactions in the Indian Ocean − extending from East Africa, the Arabian Peninsula, the Indian Subcontinent and Sri Lanka to the Southeast Asian archipelago. It also aims to promote research on themes related to the study of Maritime Routes through international scientific seminars and meetings and by adopting a multidisciplinary approach. It aims to encourage the production of specialized works, as well as publications for the general public with an attempt at promoting a broader understanding of the concept of a common heritage and multiple identities. An objective of the project is to prepare a dossier for trans-national nomination as World Heritage. The time of commencement and completion of the Project Mausam as per SFC Memorandum is April 2015 and March 2017 respectively. Total cost of the project as per SFC approval is Rs. 150, 244, 502/-.

(b) The Government has identified 39 countries (list given in Annexure-I) to bring on board for trans-national nomination for World Heritage but still has not entered into partnerships. There are no specific reasons for not entering into partnerships as such initiatives depend on various discussions and approvals from the country concerned once they are approached.

(c) A joint Sail Voyage by Indian Navy Sail Training Ship Tarangini and Royal Navy of Oman Sail Training Ship Shabab Oman was conducted from 24 November to 03 December 2015 to commemorate 60 years of diplomatic relationship between Oman and India and as an event under 'Project Mausam'.

ANNEXURE-I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (b) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 122 FOR 25.4.2016.

List of 39 Indian Ocean countries identified under Project Mausam:
1 Bahrain
2 Bangladesh
3 Cambodia
4 China
5 Comoros
6 Egypt
7 Eritrea
8 RÃ©union, French Department
9 Indonesia
10 Iraq
11 Iran (Islamic Republic)
12 Jordan
13 Kuwait
14 Kenya

15 Lebanon
16 Madagascar
17 Malaysia
18 Maldives
19 Mauritius
20 Mozambique
21 Myanmar
22 Oman
23 Pakistan
24 Philippines
25 Qatar
26 Singapore
27 Sri Lanka
28 Saudi Arabia
29 Seychelles
30 Somalia
31 South Africa
32 Sudan
33 Syrian Arab Republic
34 United Republic of Tanzania
35 Thailand
36 Turkey
37 United Arab Emirates
38 Viet Nam
39 Yemen